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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT New Types of Identification Cards Issued in the
Bierutowice (Jelenia Gora) Area/Documents Needed
to Enter Border Zone of KarpaczPLACE ACQUIRED
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DATE DISTR. 24 Nov 1953

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.

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1. "During the [redacted] throughout all of Poland, special forms were distributed to be filled out so that new identity cards could be issued. While [redacted] exactly what questions had to be answered on this form, [redacted] a birth certificate, marriage certificate (when applicable), and three photographs, together with other documents, had to be attached to the form when it was handed back to the village soltys (bailiff).

2. "New identity cards began to be issued in other parts of Poland during the [redacted] but at Karpacz and the surrounding area they were not issued until [redacted] [redacted] cards were still being issued.

3. "The new identification card, called Legitymacja Osobista, is valid only for Poles. However, [redacted] it is also valid for Germans residing in that zone. Foreigners are not entitled to this new identification card.

4. "To be issued a new identity card, a citizen of Bierutowice or the surrounding villages in the Karpacz area would be summoned to report on such-and-such a date to the MO (Militia) of Karpacz. (Cards were issued by agents of the Militia of Jelenia Gora who came specifically for that reason to the MO offices of Karpacz.) The militia agents would ask the following questions of the person who had been summoned to appear for his new identity card: Christian name and surname, address, date and place of birth. The photograph attached to

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the Legitymacja Osobista would be compared by the agent with the person's actual face, and fingerprints of the forefinger of both the right and left hands would be taken. However, these fingerprints were not affixed to the identity card but to the documents which remained in the possession of the MO. After the above procedure had been completed, the person would hand over to the Militia agent the Karta Meldunkowa (having been issued by the soltys in his place of residence), and the information contained in this Karta would be written down on the new identity card. After all these steps had been completed, the person obtained his new identity card by handing over to the Militia agent 9.00 zloty-worth of postage stamps.

5. "Those citizens who did not report to the MO of Karpacz on the date indicated in their summons had to go to the Militia of Jelenia Gora (situated as of 15 [redacted] on Grudnia Street) where new identity cards were issued to them in the same manner as described above.

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Documents Necessary to Enter Border Zone of Karpacz

6. "The following documents were necessary [redacted] for the following types of people entering a border zone:

- a. For Poles already in possession of the new identity card (Legitymacja Osobista), only a Przepustka (Permission Card issued by the municipality, called starostwa in Polish, which was the person's place of residence).
- b. For Poles not yet in possession of the new Legitymacja Osobista, one of the following documents was necessary:
 - 1) Zwiazkowa Legitymacja Czeonkowska, which is the equivalent of a working permit and is necessary nowadays for everyone who works. It was necessary to have the stamp of Zaplocono affixed to every page.
 - 2) Legitymacja Stuzbowa (Duty Identity Card)
 - 3) Legitymacja Ubezpieczalni (issued by the State Medical Institution); a photograph must be attached.

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In addition to one of the three documents listed above, the person had to have a Przepustka and the Karta Meldunkowa.

- c. For State Institution employees whose work required them to enter a border zone, the Przepustka was issued by the State Institution.
- d. For State Institution employees who entered a border zone on vacation, Przepustkas having been issued through normal channels by the starostwa (municipality) were necessary.
- e. For foreigners, valid passports issued by home country, a rose-colored type of Karta Meldunkowa (the ones for Polish citizens were larger and colored white), and a Przepustka were necessary.

7. "A person entering the border zone on a bus going from Jelenia Gora to Karpacz would encounter the first road-block (consisting, for instance, of a bar across the road) prior to entering the Kowary locality. This road block was situated near a large power plant on the left-hand side of the main road to Kowary. The road-block came immediately after the power plant and near it was a small house for the sentry. Surveillance of documents was made by the WOP troops (border zone troops similar to the Rumanian Graniciari). [redacted] the correct denomination for these WOP troops but similar WOP troops were stationed in the village of Wilcza Poreba. The second road-block was located just outside the city limits of Karpacz. Here, documents were again examined by WOP troops."

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